

House Resolution No. 758

Whereas, Janet Becker of St. Louis, Missouri, has been nominated to receive the prestigious DeVerne Lee Calloway Award, a tremendous accolade given annually by the Women Legislators of Missouri in honor of Missouri's first African-American woman state representative; and

Whereas, the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award is presented to a Missouri woman who, through her commitment and determination, has made major contributions to equality and social justice by furthering legislation concerning equal opportunities for all Missourians in the areas of education, housing, employment, etc.; and

Whereas, Janet Becker has been a St. Louis resident since 1953, during which time she has been involved with many community activities that focus on human relations, including Freedom of Residence and the League of Women Voters, which prepared her for her role as Administrative Assistant to Missouri State Senator Harriett Woods, which she held for seven years before experiencing other employment opportunities with Combinations, Inc., from 1985 to 1986 and with the St. Louis Committee for a Nuclear Weapons Freeze from 1986 to 1988; and

Whereas, Janet Becker has been lauded for her efforts to establish both the Adequate Housing for Missourians in 1987 and The St. Louis Campaign for Housing and Jobs in 1994, organize a Conference on Alternative Housing in 1983, and promote the goals and interests of Beyond Housing and Housing Options Provided for the Elderly; and

Whereas, Janet Becker is the worthy recipient of several awards and honors, including the 1990 George Washington Carver House Ralph T. Young Award, the 1993 Ethical Society of St. Louis Humanist of the Year award, the 1995 Missouri Association for Community Action Volunteer Award, the 1999 Lutheran Family and Children's Services Mildred Bringewatt Award, and the 2001 Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council Open Door Award; and

Whereas, born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on August 25, 1930, Janet Becker graduated from Germantown Friends School in 1948, attended Sarah Lawrence College from 1948 to 1950, and married her beloved Dr. Bernard Becker on June 4, 1950, a kind and caring gentleman with whom she has shared the love and admiration of six children and ten grandchildren:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Janet Becker upon her well-deserved nomination for the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Janet Becker.

Offered by _____
Representative Marilyn Ruestman
District No. 131

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 758, adopted March 10, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker